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CBS Network

DATE June 15, 1982 6:00 P.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT Report on Ex-CIA Agent Edwin Wilson

DOUGLAS EDWARDS: The United States has a reputation for not being so good at the cloak-and-dagger business. But the Attorney General gave the back of his hand to that today.

Robert Schakne has the story.

ROBERT SCHAKNE: Ex-CIA agent Wilson was tricked into leaving his refuge in Libya. Traveling with a false Irish passport and using the name Philip McCormick, Wilson thought he was flying to the Dominican Republic to buy land. A business associate had persuaded him that he'd find another haven there safe from extradition. Wilson did not know that his business associate was cooperating with the Justice Department.

Attorney General William French Smith, in announcing the arrest, said United States marshals knew in advance about Wilson's plans.

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM FRENCH SMITH: The marshals, through extensive investigation, came to know the documents Mr. Wilson was traveling on, put out international alerts, and tracked him through Western Europe, and finally to the Dominican Republic.

SCHAKNE: When Wilson arrived in Santo Domingo today, two United States marshals were waiting. Justice Department attorney Jeffrey Harris said that Dominican authorities, cooperating with the United States, put Wilson on a plane for New York.

JEFFREY HARRIS: He reportedly told the Dominican authorities that he did not have a visa for New York, the United

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States. And they told him that he didn't have to worry about that, and was put on the plane.

SCHAKNE: Wilson is charged with illegally shipping arms and explosives to Libya, with running a terrorist training school for Libyans, and using CIA employees to help.